

suitably equipped with the soundcard 30 and the similar audio streaming program 34 receives the telephone audio signal from the telephone 36 at the telephone side of the remote modem and can "play" it as continuous time-based audio. In this manner, one can listen to a telephone communication introduced at the telephone side of the remote modem, over the WAN and at the local computer without incurring long distance phone charges (as the phone call is routed over the WAN).

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

19. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for communicating audio signals between a telephone interface of a remote modem and a listening station via a packet network comprising:
a signal converter electrically connected to a telephone interface of said remote modem and electrically converting between a telephone signal and an electrical audio signal;
an interface machine, electrically connected with said converter, for processing said electrical audio signal to generate a transmitted stream of audio data packets and transmitting said stream into a packet network, and for receiving an output stream of audio data from said packet network, and for processing said output stream into an electrical audio signal to said signal converter;
a listening station for receiving said transmitted stream of audio data packets via said packet network and processing said transmitted stream to generate a continuous output audio signal, and for receiving an audio input signal and processing said signal to generate said output stream of audio data packets, and for transmitting said output stream into a packet network;
whereby an operator at said listening station can listen to the telephone signals of said remote modem and can generate audio signals to be converted into remote telephone signals, without having an electrical audio path from the remote modem to the operator location.